to General Pervez Musharraf. He stated that "President Musharraf gave me his assurance, as he has previously, that Pakistan is not doing anything of that nature." As regards past cooperation, Mr. Powell stated "I don't want to get into the past and sources and methods because there obviously were nations who were helping North Korea as they acquired the technology."

(c) It is well known that Pakistan has become the epicentre of international terrorism. Information regarding terrorist infrastructure, in Pakistan and Pakistan controlled territories, for support to terrorism is appropriately shared with other countries as a part of the global effort against international terrorism. Pakistan's continued involvement with and support for cross-border terrorism is widely recognised and many countries have called upon Pakistan to fulfill its commitment to end cross-border infiltration and terrorism.

Augmentation of Guwahati Passport Office

956. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken and achievement made towards augmentation of only passport office of seven North Eastern States at Guwahati including construction of own building and hiring of new premises till those come up;

(b) whether Government would consider pursuing a consulate office of Thailand at Guwahati to facilitate passengers of NER to avail the International flight from Guwahati comfortably; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Regional Passport Office, Guwahati is currently working from rented premises. The State Government of Assam has been requested to provide a plot of land for construction of a Passport Office there. The Government have recently hired additional space in the present building to provide better facilities to the passport applicants.

(b) and (c) Does not arise. Thailand allows the facility of a 15-day visa to Indian nationals on arrival at Bangkok airport.